

MARINE CORPS WARFIGHTING LABORATORY

The Dragonfire project will provide an advanced technology concept demonstrator to support the development of the Expeditionary Fire Support System program.

Background: In 1996 the Marine Corps Combat Development Command identified the need for a lighter, indirect fires capability with increased agility and lethality. In 1997 the Lab developed, and experimented with, an indirect fire concept demonstrator called "Dragonfire."

Description: The Dragonfire is an automated 120mm rifled mortar, also capable of firing 120mm smoothbore ammunition. It is modular, meaning it can be employed both as a towed, helicopter-mobile system and as a light armored vehicle-mobile, self-propelled system. Dragonfire II is the next generation development of the Dragonfire, which will weigh less than the first version and will apply all the lessons learned from lab experimentation.

- Weight: 7,000 pounds (Dragonfire); 3,200 pounds (Dragonfire II).
- Designed for internal stowage in the MV-22 osprey.
- Automated loading, aiming and pointing systems.
- Onboard fire control computer, self-location and communication.
- Rate of fire: 10 rounds/minute for two minutes, four rounds/minute sustained.
- Range: 8,200 meters; 13,000 meters with rocket assisted projectile.

The Dragonfire is designed to contain all the elements required to conduct accurate, responsive fire missions, including the ability to be connected to the field artillery tactical data system to receive and process fire missions. Dragonfire II will employ further advanced fire control and stabilization systems that would permit extremely rapid fire-cap capability from within the LAV in a fully-functional concept demonstrator.

DRAGON FIRE

fact sheet



Deliverable Product: An assessment and recommendations to support the determination of the EFSS materiel solution.

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Dtd: December 24, 2003



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